

June 11, 2012

To: Senator Joe Hune
Committee Chair/Agriculture Committee
Darwin L. Booher
Judy K. Emmons
Goeff Hansen
John J. Gleason

From: Ellen Stuban
PapAdopters & Placement Service, Inc.

Dear Senator Hune and members of the Agriculture Committee,

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

Gandhi

"The test of a civilization is the way that it cares for its helpless members."

Pearl S. Buck

Now imagine the last minutes of your life spent dizzy, terrified, gasping for breath, completely enclosed in a dark box, unable to understand what is happening to you. This is what animals experience every day when their lives are unmercifully ended in gas chambers. If Gandhi and Ms. Buck were alive today, I wonder what conclusions they would come to about Michigan, who still allows gassing of animals in shelters. How moral and civilized is Michigan and it's Michiganders?

We know there is a less expensive alternative to gassing readily available, with grants for shelters and training so that no veterinarian need be on site to administer Euthanasia By Injection (EBI). We know that gassing poses a real threat to the physical and emotional health of shelter workers. We know that animals suffer needlessly and horribly with gassing as a form of euthanasia. Given what we know, there is no reason for the practice to be allowed to continue.

Those of us who devote our lives to the welfare and care of animals have so many uphill battles to make things better for defenseless animals, who through no fault of their own find themselves homeless. This fight does not have to be one of them. The remedy is at the tips of our fingers and with your support, gassing of animals in Michigan's shelters can become a thing of the past. Please help in the efforts to pass Grant's Bills (SB 423 & SB 424). Please help us to make Michigan a model state who can raise its head and feel no shame for the way it's homeless animals are treated.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Stuban
PapAdopters & Placement Service